

## **Cemetery Committee Report**

We again received an overwhelming amount of support for the cemetery fund during the 2002 Family Reunion from both those in attendance and from those who sent contribution by mail. Even members of our Canadian cousins are contributing to this fund and have to date never been to one of our Reunions. We sincerely hope they will be here this year. We wish to thank everyone so very much. People throughout the world, wherever we go, are amazed that a family cares so much that we will do what our family is doing to preserve the resting places of our ancestors.

From the one dollar given by some who cannot afford more, to the thousands given by others, this only proves what a wonderful family we have proven ourselves to be. Members who cannot attend the Reunions encourage us by mail to continue with our Historical and Cemetery Committee efforts. Our Canadian cousins keep in touch with us on a regular basis via letter and e-mail and we let them know of our accomplishments.

We again have a leftover project (Manna Rich Ariail plot in Louisiana) because of the slowness of the cemetery staff in New Orleans. Although we are still in the negotiating stage for perpetual care for his plot, we have as yet to be able to get a commitment from them. We will hold this project over for another year to see if we can complete the negotiations. I have warned them that we will pull the money earmarked for this project and use it elsewhere if they continue stalling in their negotiations with us. See last years report for what has already been accomplished on this tomb.

The obligations for this year were as follows: (1) placing a memorial marker in the South End Cemetery in Southington, Connecticut for John and Hannah Ariail (our 1<sup>st</sup> ancestor in the U.S.). This has been accomplished. A tall pink dogwood tree was planted on a large level grass covered plot, approximately 50 x 200 feet at the entrance to the cemetery. At the base of the tree was placed a pink marker, 1 x 2 feet with vitals engraved surrounded by dogwood blossoms. We had approved \$1,000.00 for this project and a total of \$852.10 was spent to accomplish our work. Pictures of the plot will be available at the Reunion.

Last years report gave an estimate of work on one project. It should be noted that the estimate given was accurate and no adjustments need to be made to the funding of that project.

At the Reunion in 2002, a collection was taken and \$583.00 was received to accomplish the approved projects. \$1,100.00 was received from private donations.

There will be \$3,005.90 left in the account going into the next year and will be utilized for future stone improvements/placements or grave retention costs. One of the projects approved in the 2002 Reunion was held in suspension because of the uncertainty of funding to complete all three projects, however, we are as of this date launching an effort to complete the work at the earliest date. That is the plot of Climelia Abigail Ariail at Mt. Carmel Presbyterian Church in Easley, South Carolina. I will update at the Reunion if we get the project completed before that date.

We again visited the cemeteries of many Ariail-Arial family members in different towns in Massachusetts and Vermont. All grave plots that we found are in good condition and well cared for. This was done at no cost to the cemetery fund.

A total of \$852.10 was spent to accomplish grave work last year. From all sources, Reunion collection and private donations, a total of \$1,683.00 was donated by different family members. Total money owed: None. Total money on hand \$3,005.90. Note: As with previous years, some family members donated money for a partial or complete project. This exemplary action on their part must be commended and it is hoped that others will assist in a like manner.

Again, I have an accounting for all monies received and expended, with names of contributors, but do not feel it would be appropriate to publish the list here. Any individual wanting to see this list of contributors should contact Doyce Ariail, President of the Reunion Association, and we will be happy to arrange for you to see the list of donors.

As a project for this coming year, there are two already approved projects pending. These are listed as (1) and (2) below and will be accomplished if possible before the 2004 Reunion. The 3<sup>rd</sup> project recommended is placement of a stone on the unmarked grave of Thomas Hamilton Boggs.

(1) Purchase perpetual care for the grave of Manna Rich Ariail in New Orleans, Louisiana. Cost approximately \$1,500.00. This will ensure that his remains are not removed from the tomb and the grave plot resold to other people. This Ariail was connected with both Massachusetts and Louisiana Ariail families and led a very colorful and productive life.

(2) Replace unreadable/very old markers for grandchildren of Climelia Abigail Ariail at Mt. Carmel Presbyterian Church. Also upgrade entire cemetery plot.

(3) Thomas Hamilton Boggs, husband of Kate Archer Ariail. He died on Jul 24, 1902 in Florida and was brought back to the Old Liberty Cemetery in Liberty South Carolina to be buried. There is an unmarked grave in the family plot. We will contact one of his descendents in North Carolina before completing this project. Kate Archer Ariail is buried in Atlanta and already has a marker.

There are also other needs to be met should additional money be available, or should family members make specific donations. These are as follows:

- (1) Manna Goodwin Ariail, d. Jun 21, 1856, unmarked grave, Town Cemetery, Stockbridge, Mass. Grave not yet identified. He is son of Manna Rich Ariail from Louisiana. It is believed he was either taken to Massachusetts for medical assistance or died while visiting relatives there. Recovered newspaper article from the mid 1800's confirms death in Stockbridge.
- (2) Marker for Robert Francis (Boddy) Kinard, b. Sep 29, 1919, d. Apr 17, 1921. Buried in family Plot of The Rev. William Hamilton Ariail at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Florence, S.C.
- (3) Marker for Ralph Styron, son of Lillie Beatrice Ariail, at Piedmont, S.C. Need birth/death data The bible held by Styron family.
- (4) Upgrade grave of children of Claude Ariail, Nails Creek Cemetery. Uncle Felton Ariail expressed desire that this be accomplished before he passed away.

I realize that most people do not recognize some of these family members as they are not part of our immediate family, however, they mean so much to those of our cousins to whose family they belong. We must keep in mind that the Cemetery Committee is attempting to do this work for the entire Ariail family across the entire United States.

We thank you so much for your response to our efforts and sincerely thank those who so very generously gave. If you desire to help this year, please come prepared to give during the Reunion Meeting so that we can continue to accomplish the goals that we have set. If you cannot give at the Reunion and wish to make a commitment, give us your name, address, and phone number so we can keep in touch with you at a later date. It should be remembered that the collection taken at the reunion for the cost of conducting the Reunion is completely separate from the Cemetery donations. All contributions for the cemetery fund should be deposited in the appropriate collection vehicle. Again, the entire Cemetery Committee as well as all Family members, desire to thank you so very much. We continue to meet and make lasting friends for the family from the efforts that have been made.

*Committee: Lorraine Patterson, Secretary, James Patterson, Chairman, Trenton Patterson & Keith Ariail, members.*

### **Historical Report**

Since last years Reunion I have been privileged to meet and correspond with several distant cousins that we had heretofore not known. I do not wish to use names less I forget and offend someone with whom I have corresponded during the past year; however, I do want to mention one such case.

We have corresponded with a lady by the name of Gwen Oryall from Payson, Utah. She is descended from Joseph Ariail-Arial who migrated to New York State from Canada. Joseph was the grandson of John Ariail, our ancestor. He eventually moved to Wisconsin. It is not known exactly why or how his name was changed; however, in the 1850 U.S. Census his name appeared as Joseph Yeal. Later in life the name had changed to Oryall. Through the efforts of this lady and another cousin by the name of Denise Viau, we have been able to accomplish much work in figuring out exactly who our cousins are across the northern part of the United States. We wish to thank both of them for helping us so very much.

In our efforts to research the family of Michel Ariail, son of John Ariail in Canada, our research has taken us to several places during the past year. After placing a memorial marker for John and Hannah Ariail in the South End Cemetery in Southington, Connecticut, we journeyed into Massachusetts and visited Shelburn Falls, Turners Falls, Hawley and several other small towns that the Ariail-Arial family lived in during their lifetimes. We located several cemeteries where the Ariail family are interred and also retrieved several documents pertaining to the families of our cousins.

From there we went into Vermont and visited Middlebury, Salisbury, Brandon, Rutland, Castleton and Brattleboro. You will recall, the bible that belonged to John Ariail and contains the birth data for his children born in the United States was printed in Brattleboro, Vermont back in the 1700's. Brattleboro has been known for its printing business since the early 1700's.

We also visited Theresa May Ariail-Arial Lucas in Turners Falls, Mass. She is a most charming lady and vastly proud of her family. She showed us all the many pictures she has lining her living room and gave us all the information she could remember about the Ariail-Arial family. Her husband's health is not good, however, he was pleased to meet us and we chatted for some time.

We continue to keep in touch with the Ariail cousins in France. All of them are truly outstanding people with whom to visit and associate. It seems that everywhere we go the Ariail family receive us in the most gracious manner conceivable. I guess that quality is part of their character and Lorraine and I

enjoy every minute that we are privileged to spend with our cousins, both in the United States and abroad.

This year, I wanted to include in the Historical Report documentation that we uncovered that points to our John Ariail and his family and his marriage in Canada. The documentation is self-explanatory, it shows what happened and why he left Canada – John Ariail was simply in debt. We have approximately 100 documents pertaining to his problems but space is limited. Below are a couple of the documents.

The first document explains that John Ariail was in debt and attempted to obtain a letter of credit from his sister in France. Being in debt was treated very differently in the early days from the way we consider debt in today's environment. Quote:

*To the honorable Judges, Of the Court of Common Pleas, Of the District of Quebec*

Plaintiff. Francois Levesque, Squire, Advisor of the Council of that Province of Quebec, has the honor to present to you that last \*October 13th, he would have provided in money and merchandise to Sir Jean Ariail, then a merchant in that city, the sum of three thousand [Courois] pounds; for the aforementioned sum, Ariail would have given his Letter of Exchange made out to the Deputy, drawn on Miss Perrine Ariail at the home of Mrs. de Chollard, businesswoman near Les Recollets, in Nantes (France); the aforementioned Letter of Exchange payable thirty days from then.

That upon the presentation that would have been made of the aforementioned Exchange Letter to the aforementioned Miss Perrine Ariail, she would have refused to accept (it), according to the [Protest], made by Masters Legouais and Poiscaud, notaries in Nantes, last November twenty-fourth, duly checked, which was sent back to the deputy with the aforementioned Exchange Letter.

That the aforementioned Sir Jean Ariail, found to be **currently absent** from this province of Quebec, the deputy could not succeed in obtaining a refund for the value of the aforementioned Exchange Letter.

And since Marie Louise Allard, wife of the aforementioned Sir Jean Ariail (and) living in this city, is in possession of a house located in this city, Street of the Mountain, and of many belongings and credits belonging to the aforementioned Ariail, who did not leave the value of ten pounds or more money from this province, the deputy turns to your justice, so that it would please you to allow to have assigned to your next session, the aforementioned Marie Louise Allard, wife of Jean Ariail, in order to see herself constrained to render in your honorable courtroom, a just and faithful account, even a written one, which will be held as a sincere and truthful listing of all goods, furniture and buildings, money or credits, that she has in her possession or that she knew she had in her possession, coming from anyone, without which she would be personally sentenced to make payment for the aforementioned exchange letter, interest, and expenses.

And in the event that she renders the aforementioned account as it should be, to order that the jurors chosen for this equitable court, will declare the debt legitimate and damages due to the plaintiff, the total amounting to the sum of 62 pounds, six pence, current value in the province, according to the account and affidavit filed at the clerk's office; for which sum it would please you to grant to the plaintiff action against the belongings of Jean Ariail with expenses. And you will do justice.

A. Lanet, Quebec, April 12, 1774

I, James Jeffrey, A.D.P.M., have caused a copy of the above declaration to be served on Marie-Louise Allard, the wife of Jean Ariail, on the 10th Instant. James Jeffrey, A.D.P.M.  
Sworn in court before me on the 19th day April 1774. A. Mabane, J.C.P.

*\*Note: October 13, 1773. Upon examination of the above text, it appears that John Ariail's hasty departure from Canada happened within 30 days before October 13, 1773. We are able to pinpoint this quite accurately because we have a document where he signed for the birth of his last son in Canada, Michel Ariail, on Jul 26, 1773. He was married to widow Hannah Rich Cowles within approximately 7 months [about Jun 18, 1774] after he left Quebec, Canada. His marriage took place in Massachusetts. He must have taken some money with him because he purchased his home place in Southington, Connecticut shortly after his marriage and relocated to that area. John Ariail's family in Canada consisted of the following children: Marie Louise, b. Dec 15, 1761, Marie Anne, b. Feb 3, 1763, Jean Baptiste, b. May 8, 1764, Marie Josephe, b. Jul 15, 1765, Jean Louis Charles, b. Aug 25, 1766, Marie Marguerite, b. Oct 10, 1767, Jean Baptiste Robert, b. Apr 8, 1769 and Michel, b. Jul 26, 1773.*

*A warrant was issued to arrest John Ariail on a bad debt issue. The following document shows that he was no longer in Canada.*

*The below data is telling the court that John Ariail cannot be found in the Province of Quebec.*

The within named defendant **is not found** within my district. So answers Nicholas Turner by  
James Jeffry A.D.P.M.

**George The Third**, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King Defender of the faith xc To the Provost Marshal of the Province of Quebec. Greeting: We command you that you take the body of **Jean Ariail** late of the City of Quebec (merchant) x x if he may be found in your District of Quebec and him so taken, safely keep so that you may have his body before the Judges of our Court of Common Pleas at the Court house in the City of Quebec on Tuesday the nineteenth day of April, instant. To answer Francois Levesque, of the City of Quebec, Esqr. x x in a plea of Trespass on the case for the sum of three hundred and fifty pounds x x x x lawful money of the Province of Quebec and have you then there this writ witness the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Adam Malone, Esqr. x x one of the Judges of said Court at Quebec the twelfth day of April x x in fourteenth year of our Reign. David Lynde  
C.C.P.

*After John Ariail could not be found and be charged for his debt, the following article explains what happened to the property of John Ariail in Canada. It should be noted that other documents shows that John Ariail was a very energetic businessman and generous to those in need. He owned a hotel, tavern, store, and several pieces of property in Quebec. This property was apparently John Ariails' personal residence.*

*This article appeared in the Quebec Newspaper  
pertaining to sale of property that was owned by John Ariail*

**DISTRICT OF QUEBEC, SS.** -- By Virtue of a Writ of *Fieri Facias*, issued out of the Court of Common pleas for the said District of Quebec, at the Suit of Francois Levesque, Esq; against the Monies, Goods, Chattels, Rights, Credits, and Real Estate of **Jean Ariail, an Absentee**, to me directed, I have seized and taken in Execution as the Property of the said Jean Ariail, a House situated on the Hill leading from the Upper to the Lower town, twenty-five Feet in Front by twenty-four in Depth, consisting of a Cellar with a Well in it, two Rooms on the first Floor at the Entrance of the House, with a Passage leading to a Kitchen where there is an Oven, a Gallery in the Front, and in the second Story a large Room and Closet, over which there is a large Room with dormer Windows, and over that a Garret, with a good Stair-case and double Floors through the whole, besides forty-six Feet in Depth extending to the Bottom of the Cap: Now this is to give Notice that the above Premises will be

exposed to Sale at publick Vendue, at the Provost marshal's Office, in the City of Quebec, on Friday the sixteenth Day of December next; the Sale to begin at one o'Clock P.M. and the Premises to be adjudged to the highest Bidder at two o'Clock precisely. JAMES JEFFRY, A.D.P.M.

N.B. If any Person or Persons have any prior Claim to the Premises, or any Part thereof, by Mortgage or otherwise, they are required to give Notice thereof to the said Provost marshal before the Day of Sale. --- Quebec, June 14, 1774. Unquote

None of us should glean from the above that John Ariail was less than an honorable person. He carried the title of "Sir" in many of the documents we have recovered. Punishment for a bad debt in those days was probably exile to a penal colony, probably in Australia. John Ariail simply had a choice to make and we must remember that we are here today because he made the choice that he did.

This year at the reunion we will have the family Bible from 1775 on display along with several books containing documentation and family tree. Any help anyone can give us in updating their section of the family tree would be most greatly appreciated.

We encourage all, who possibly can, to attend the reunion this year. As I said last year —come sup with us and we will sup with you — our lives will be much richer from the family experience. My wife and I have an extra bedroom and will be happy to host someone coming from far away. You will have to let us know soon and if we still have the room, we will provide you shelter while here. Our phone # is 706 886 5669.

I am out of space and must close. If you have any questions, please call me. We do hope to see you at the reunion this year. May God bless each of you richly during the coming year.

James W. Patterson, Historian  
Son of Lillie Blanche Ariail.